

What is Claimed is:

- 1           1.       A method implemented via a computerized system for coordinating  
2       business information flow to permit a provider of goods or services to prepare a  
3       project proposal including a price quote for a project requested by a customer, said  
4       system including a central server programmed to execute said method, said  
5       method comprising the steps of:  
6                establishing a communications channel between the central server  
7       and at least one client computer;  
8                creating a statement of work comprising project data corresponding  
9       to project details, terms, requirements, and comments using a project information  
10      template;  
11              transmitting the statement of work over the communications  
12      channel to the central server from one of the at least one client computer to initiate  
13      preparation of the project proposal;  
14              searching a resource database storing resource data relating to  
15      available resources using a search template to identify and select the available  
16      resources suitable for completing the project defined by the statement of work;  
17              processing data relating to selected resources and project data of  
18      the statement of work to generate the price quote and prepare the project proposal;  
19      and

20 preparing an evaluation summary report of the project proposal,  
21 detailing the project data and selected resource data of selected available resources  
22 for review and approval by the provider of goods or services.

1 2. The computerized system of Claim 1, further comprising the step  
2 of transmitting the evaluation summary report to ones of the at least one client  
3 computer accessed by appropriate review departments of the provider for review  
4 and approval of the project proposal.

1 3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the evaluation summary report  
2 includes financial evaluation of the project proposal, and one of the appropriate  
3 review departments is a finance review department.

1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the evaluation summary report  
2 includes contractual compliance evaluation, and one of the appropriate review  
3 departments is a contracts review department.

1 5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of notifying the  
2 customer of the project proposal including the price quote upon approval by the  
3 provider.

1           6.     The method of Claim 5, wherein the notifying step further  
2     comprises the step of transmitting the project proposal over the communications  
3     channel to one of the at least one client computer accessed by the customer for  
4     viewing.

1           7.     The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of storing in a  
2     customer database, status information corresponding to current status and history  
3     of the statement of work in the business information flow for viewing by the  
4     customer.

1           8.     The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of storing in a  
2     personnel database, information relating to internal record of the statement of  
3     work for access by personnel of the provider.

1           9.     The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2                 assigning the transmitted statement of work to a quote advisor for  
3     facilitating the preparation of the project proposal from the statement of work; and  
4                 notifying the assigned quote advisor and the customer of the  
5     assignment and contact information of the quote advisor and the customer.

1           10.    The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of

2                   posting flag dates for at least one event during the preparation of  
3   the project proposal; and  
4                   notifying the provider of the passing of flag dates for each  
5   corresponding event.

1           11.    The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2                   preparing a tentative statement of work including project data  
3   inputted by the customer through use of a tentative statement of work template;  
4                   transmitting the tentative statement of work over the  
5   communications channel to the central server from one of the at least one client  
6   computer accessed by the customer to generate a tentative order of magnitude;  
7                   notifying the customer of the tentative order of magnitude via the  
8   communication channel for acceptance; and  
9                   converting the tentative statement of work upon acceptance of the  
10   tentative order of magnitude.

1           12.    The method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:  
2                   qualifying a user of one of the at least one client computer for  
3   access of the central server through input of a userid code and a corresponding  
4   password code; and  
5                   identifying the user as a company user or a customer user.

1           13.    The method of Claim 12, further comprising the step of limiting  
2    access by the customer user to the central server for searching and viewing status  
3    of each statement of work created by the customer user on the customer database.

1           14.    The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of receiving  
2    acceptance or rejection of the project proposal from the customer over the  
3    communications channel from one of the client computers accessed by the  
4    customer.